

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: But, Senator Lindsay, and maybe that's the point, this is is not a commission that's going to go in and tell your county how to run its business.

SENATOR LINDSAY: I disagree, Senator.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: This is a state...this is a state service, there's no money. And if you want to continue, you know, I enjoy this because you're going to try to push in here the membership and you want to inflame people by telling them that it's lawyers, and you're going to whip all these up. That's just wrong and you know it, I know it as well.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Kristensen,...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It's my turn, thank you.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: And what we're doing is you're trying to fan those flames of a little discontent so you can start a brush fire here or there, but let's be up front with what the bill does and what it doesn't do. This bill does not have county funds going into it. There is no pool of money to divide at the county level. This money is going to hire people. Those people are going to share their services with the county, plain, precise. There's no money that poor old Omaha is going to give to some smaller county. I'm sorry, we didn't do that, and there's not a pile of money that some little county is going to have to fork over to Omaha. If you want to portray that to try to make people angry, you can do so, and that's obviously what's going on here. The provision of opting out doesn't apply anymore because this is state funds. The state funds go to hire people who will go and be of assistance. If a county doesn't want to take advantage of the state assistance that it's going to get, they don't have to do it. They can say, I'm sorry, we're never going to ask for a staff attorney to come do it. And that, Senator Lindsay, my frustration is that we keep talking about this pool of money. There is no money. The \$500,000, and that's the reason Senator Beutler's amendment won't work here because there is no pool of money to take away from. That money is going to hire people who will do assistance. There is no pool of money to divide. There's no pool of money that you can offset from. And if you do this amendment, what you're going to wind up doing is you can opt out